

and they require large initial outlays of capital. Once a facility such as a street is constructed, the community normally will have to use it and live with it for many years regardless of whether it was designed or located properly.

Advance planning can help insure the public's money will be spent wisely for the following reasons.

1. Community needs can be considered logically, and alternative solutions can be explored.
2. The location, size, and level of service each facility should provide can be considered carefully.
3. The priority of community facility needs can be set according to urgency, relative benefit derived from each facility, and with the community's financial capacity in mind.
4. Advance knowledge of land needs for community facilities may make land acquisition possible at cheaper prices.
5. Advance planning prevents expensive crash programs to meet emergency situations.

#### Who do community facilities serve?

Most community services are designed primarily to serve the residents of the town. There are some exceptions. Both residents and non-residents use Southern Pines' streets, sidewalks, and other facilities, but for the most part these facilities were built and paid for by residents. Some facilities such as hospitals, the sheriff's department, and the airport were designed to serve a larger region than just Southern Pines and its planning area.

#### How many people should Southern Pines plan for in the future?

A water treatment plant of a certain capacity, or a certain number of policemen can normally be said to be adequate for a town of a specific size. Thus, if a community's population is 6,000, it is possible to make estimates of the number of people and facilities needed to provide adequate service levels for